GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5132
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005
INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES FROM SMALL CITIES
Adityanath Yogi Shri ;Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to start international air services from airports of small cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposals have also been received from the foreign airlines in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the cities proposed to be connected with international air services during the current year?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c), (d) and(e): Presently 14 airports in the country are designated as international airports. In order to promote international connectivity out of points in India, bilateral rights are being exchanged liberally with foreign countries. In this process traffic rights have been granted to many foreign countries to smaller cities as well. As far as the Indian carriers are concerned, they are free to operate from any airport in India. However, actual operations are left to the commercial judgement of the airlines and traffic demand.